Dismal standard of Indian graduates

108. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that higher education in the country is in a dismal state, as only nine per cent of Indian graduates are employed, while 50 per cent of the students do not have any understanding of the course they are studying;

(b) whether HRD Minister, at the Conference of Vice-Chancellors, admitted that higher education in India is a sick child and it is time to bring in the necessary changes; and

(c) if so, what were the recommendations made at the above mentioned conference and what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government is not aware of any authentic study, which establishes that only 9% of Indian graduates are employed or that 50% of the students do not have any understanding of the course they are studying.

(b) Yes, Sir. Referring to the declining public investment in higher education over the years adversely affecting the university system, attention of participants at the Conference of Vice Chancellors was drawn to the need for remedial measures for strengthening higher education.

(c) Based on the common consensus arising out of the dicussion in the National Conference of the Vice Chancellors, focused attention shall be given on expansion of higher education, enhancement of access with quality, inclusion and relevance and introduction of academic and administrative reforms in universities and college system.

Obstacles in universalization of elementary education

109. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the path leading towards universalizing elementary education in the country is fraught with obstacles with States and Union Territory expressing their strong reservations towards the model Right to Education Bill, 2006; if so, whether Prime Minister has decided to set up a high-level Group to examine the legal, constitutional and financial implications of the Right to Education;

(b) whether the Group has already given its recommendations to Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) A High Level Group (HLG) comprising Minister of Human Resource Development, Finance Minister, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council was

constituted by the Prime Minister in November, 2005 to consider the legal, constitutional and financial implications of the Right to Education. The HLG met on 4th January, 2006 and its recommendations were forwarded to the Prime Minister for his consideration. Based on further consultations in the matter, a draft Model Right to Education Bill was formulated. The draft Model Bill as well as the proposals to incentivise the States to adopt the Model Bill were circulated to the States for their comments. In response, various Sates/UTs have expressed their strong reservations and apprehensions. Given the complexity of the matter, the meeting of the HLG was again held on 6th November, 2007 to examine the issues involved and advise the government on how best to take the matter forward with a view to fulfill the commitment of the Government to facilitate the enactment of an appropriate Law that would enable the realization of making education a Fundamental Right as required by the Constitution.

Kendriya Vidyalayas without permanent land

110. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 38 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) scattered in different parts of the country are without permanent land;

(b) if so, whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development had identified 38 Kendriya Vidyalayas where land has not been made available by the sponsoring agencies even after a lapse of 20 to 25 years in some cases;

(c) if so, in which States these Kendriya Vidyalayas are set up; and

(d) by when a final decision to provide all infrastructural facilities to these Kendriya Vidyalayas would be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The present status of the 38 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) identified by the Parliamentary Standing Committee is given in the statement. *(See* below)

(d) Providing of infrastructural facilities to these KVs depends, *inter-alia,* on the transfer of suitable land to the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan by the sponsoring authorities.

Statement

Status of transfer of land in respect of 38 Kendriya Vidyalayas

Sl. No	Name of KV	State/UTs	Year of Opening	Sponsoring Authority	Latest Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh	1995-96	State Govt.	Land is available and permanent school building has been sanctioned
2.	Sabathu	Himachal Pradesh	1981-82	Army	Land has been taken on
3	Karnal	Haryana	1986-87	State Govt.	lease & permanent school }
4.	OLD DVS Dhanbad	Jharkhand	1973-74	Railway	building is under planning.